



Nova Scotia U15 Major Hockey League Format

1.0 OBJECTIVES:

1.1 The objectives of the league are:

- To provide a high calibre of play for skilled U15 players in all areas of Nova Scotia
- To encourage players to stay within Nova Scotia by providing a viable competition alternative
- To provide a competitive level of hockey under minor hockey rules that provides for an emphasis on education, skill development and sportsmanship.
- To enable skilled players to compete against players of similar level, while limiting the impact on family and travel to players.

2.0 STRUCTURE:

2.1 The league consists of twelve (12) regionalized teams located in the following regions:

- Region 1: Cape Breton Region
- Region 2: Strait Region including Antigonish and Canso Minor Hockey Associations
- Region 3: Pictou County Minor Hockey Association
- Region 4: Fundy Region
- Region 5: Cole Harbour/Bel Ayr and Eastern Shore Minor Hockey Associations
- Region 6: Dartmouth Whalers Minor Hockey Association



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- Region 7: Bedford Minor Hockey Association
 - Region 8: Halifax Hawks Minor Hockey Association
 - Region 9: TASA and Chebucto Minor Hockey Associations
 - Region 10: Sackville and East Hants Minor Hockey Associations
 - Region 11: Western Region and Clare/Digby MHA
 - Region 12: Nova Region as defined by Western Valley MHA; Acadia MHA and West Hants MHA

3.0 GOVERNANCE:

3.1 The League shall be administered by an Executive Committee elected by the League membership and two members appointed by Hockey Nova Scotia and all approved by Hockey Nova Scotia. The Executive Committee is to consist of:

- Chair (appointed by Hockey Nova Scotia)
- President
- Vice President Operations
- Secretary/Treasurer
- Registrar
- Development Representative (appointed by HNS)

3.2 All Executive Committee members shall be appointed by the Hockey Nova Scotia Board annually.

4.0 RESIDENCY:



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- 4.1 Players must try out for the team within the Region in which he/she resides.
 - 4.2 Should a player not be selected to the team within his Region, he/she will have the option of trying out for one additional team only.

5.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

- 5.1 Players must be U15-aged (13 and 14-years old within the calendar year) who are residentially eligible to register and play minor hockey in Nova Scotia, are eligible to try out for their U15 Major team.
- 5.2 Underage players will not be eligible to play unless approved by the Chair of Elite hockey and President of Hockey Nova Scotia, under the guidelines of the Exceptional Player Process as established for the Nova Scotia U15 Major Hockey League.

6.0 PLAYER SELECTION:

- 6.1 Player evaluation and selection will be the responsibility of each respective team utilizing the Hockey Nova Scotia High Performance Program Evaluation/Selection model. Tryouts for all clubs shall not commence prior to August 15th annually and must conclude no later than September 10th of each season.
- 6.2 A core roster consisting of 13 skaters and 1 goaltender is to be submitted to the League Registrar by September 1st of each season with the final roster submitted to the League Registrar by September 15th of each season.
- 6.3 Teams are encouraged to hold Spring Identification Camps at the end of each season. The camps must not start before 14 days after U15 Major Atlantic Regional Championship and not before U13 AAA Provincial Championships are completed and must be completed by May 31st.



7.0 PLAYER AFFILIATION:

- 7.1** Current Hockey Nova Scotia regulations for special affiliates will apply; with the exception that only affiliates from registered U15 teams within the selecting team's region are eligible.
- 7.2** The number of affiliates for each team will be limited to 9 skaters and 1 goaltender.

8.0 TEAM COMPOSITION

- 8.1** Teams shall consist of minimum 17 players including two goaltenders.

9.0 TEAM UNIFORMS

- 9.1** All clubs must provide the following equipment to all participating players:
- Sweaters (colours approved in bid process)
 - Matching Socks
 - Gloves
 - CSA-approved Helmets
 - Pants or Shells

10.0 PLAYERS FEES AND COSTS

- 10.1** Player fees may be collected to cover the following:
- Ice costs for games and practices.
 - Try-out fees



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- Travel (normally provided by parents, this is for any rental of buses during winter months)
 - Officials
 - Player registration/insurance
 - Jerseys/equipment
 - Team administrative costs
 - League Executive and administration
 - Trophies/Awards
 - Tournaments
 - Playoffs

11.0 REGISTRATION

- 11.1** All team members and officials must be registered as specified in Hockey Nova Scotia regulations.

12.0 SCHEDULE: Anticipated number of regular scheduled games will be 33.

- 12.1** Teams will play an unbalanced schedule with all games being played on weekends (Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings/afternoons). Exceptions for weekday games, if requested, will be granted for interlocking games between teams located in Regions 5,6,7,8,9 and 10. Weekday games must not commence before 7:00 p.m. and must be completed by 10:00 p.m.



- 12.2** Games played on Saturdays must not commence prior to 4:00 p.m., with the exception of interlocking games between teams in Regions 5,6,7,8,9 and 10; and in any event, must be completed no later than 10:00 p.m. Games played on Sundays must not commence before 11:00 a.m. and must be completed at a time to allow the visiting team to return to their home arena by 7:00 p.m., with the exception of interlocking games as above, which must be completed by 10:00 p.m.

13.0 COMPETITION:

- 13.1** Each league game will consist of:

- Periods 1 and 2, 15-minute stop time with the 3rd period being 20-minutes stop time.
- 10-minute warm-up.
- 10-minute intermission between the 2nd and 3rd period.
- Ice to be resurfaced between the 2nd and 3rd period.
- No overtime during league play.
- Each team permitted one 30-second timeout per game.

- 13.2** Game time slots (rentals) must be two hours in length to allow for the game. Any team wishing to host a home game outside of their specified home arena must seek the approval of the League President. All games must be fully completed. "Buzzing off" will not be permitted.

14.0 PRACTICES

- 14.1** Teams must hold a minimum of two practices per week at a minimum of one-hour



duration each.

15.0 COACH SELECTION:

- 15.1** Coach selection will be administered by the league clubs; however, all coaches must be approved by league Executive Committee. All coaches and bench staff must meet the minimum certification standards for U15 Major, as specified in Hockey Nova Scotia regulations.

16.0 DISCIPLINE:

- 16.1** Hockey Nova Scotia Minor Council Code of Discipline will apply.

17.0 MEMBER TEAMS:

- 17.1** The league's twelve teams/franchises will be awarded through an evaluation of submitted bids from interested groups who must meet specific bid criteria. Teams/franchises will be awarded for two-year terms upon conclusion of which must be applied for again. Hockey Nova Scotia has the right to revoke membership upon completion of this term. Teams will be evaluated during this period to ensure of adherence to all aspects of the bid solicitation requirements, league constitution, and Hockey Nova Scotia policies and procedures.